

Universities and Governments: Five Securities and Economic Development to 2030

AAUN Forum and AGM, 27-28 Oct 2022

Final V12 – 23 October 2022)

Venue: Moot Court building 6a, Law School, Australian National University (Canberra)

To: AAUN Board, Partners, Forum Speakers. From: John Hearn, Executive Co-Chair AAUN.

INTRODUCTION. Thank you for your feedback for the AAUN Forum and AGM 2022, confirmed for **Thursday 27 October (Forum and AGM) and Friday 28 October (PRDF Research Workshop)**. All speakers are confirmed. All Speakers except one will be attending in person. Attendance is for fully vaccinated individuals (certified) and Covid protocols will apply.

There are major geopolitical and security developments in 2022-24 that influence Australian, African, and Indo-Pacific futures. Short and long-term engagement from the US, UK, EU, and other nations has increased. The sharpening of alliances, including AUKUS, QUAD and CP-TPP, establishes an enhanced framework. As the only Australia-Africa Universities Education and Research Network, AAUN has adjusted its strategic action plan 2022-25, with selected South-South and North-South partners. We ask speakers to adjust their scope accordingly. **The “5 Securities” theme remains the core, with research to build stability.**

OBJECTIVE. 2022 is the 10th anniversary of AAUN forming equal research partnerships and identifying key research and education interventions that deliver sustainable human and economic development. The results are relevant to Australia, Africa, and with broader application in the Indo-Pacific region. We confirm our priorities and programs aligned to the SDGs, AU 2063 Agenda, and other policy frameworks. Only eight years remaining to meet SDG targets for 2030. AAUN has shared governance, consultative teamwork, and impact.

CONTEXT. Emerging from COVID lockdowns, AAUN is strengthening links with governments and business in creating impact through research, education, and international teamwork. AAUN has 23 University members (10 Australian, 13 African), with 60 research teams addressing regional and global challenges. We will have 15 University members in each continent by 2025. Two new groups are: **the AAUN Indo-Pacific Group (south-south, 5 members) and the AAUN Global Group (north-south, 5 members).**

There are extraordinary challenges in environment, energy transitions and climate, food and nutrition, public health and pandemics, education and research, evidence-based policy, and financial resources. The challenges require AAUN to build stronger teamwork with governments, business, alumni, and the related diasporas.

The CONCEPT for this AAUN Forum 2022 is **Teamwork Time**, including specific teams around specific programs where Australian, African, and broader development interests in the Indo-Pacific coincide. We continue to build opportunity for early and established researchers, women and men. We must achieve sustained leadership and new international support. We deliver strengthened capacity and sustainability.

The **THEME** of this AAUN Forum is **SECURITY**. But we must think broadly about the **five securities** that we engage, including (i) **Environment and Agriculture**, (ii) **Food and Nutrition**, (iii) **Health and Diseases**; (iv) **Education, Employment and Economic Development**. It is **failures in these** that fuel (v) **Hard Security** in migration, terrorism, trafficking, cybercrime, corruption and societal destabilization.

Our scope and reach cover Australia and selected African countries, with associated Indo-Pacific and global partners. The Australia-Africa bridge has weakened with COVID, reduced priority in policy, and diminished support in funding. **The new Australian government shows early signs of reviewing this decline. AAUN is committed to advance undaunted**, confident the value and strategic importance of our partnerships are vital in education, economic development, friendship, and enduring diplomacy. This AAUN Forum can build consensus and develop priorities and programs. The long-term relationships, and friendships between Australia, Africa, and Indo Pacific universities, are a solid platform. The COVID challenge proves our partnerships, teamwork and capacity can win through any challenge.

SUMMARY – Please refer to the AAUN website www.aaun.edu.au for current information.

- (i) Our focus is on practical next steps. Please see the AAUN Annual Reports 2018-2019, and 2020-22 (in preparation), with the AAUN Strategic Action Summary 2022-25 at www.aaun.edu.au
- (ii) We include established and early career researchers, women and men, as core assets and participants in all research and development activities. A focus is on sustainable leadership.
- (iii) **The next AAUN AGM is at 1230h Canberra time on Thursday 27 October.** We ask all AAUN Board members to attend. The first part of the meeting will be open to invited guests.
- (iv) The Forum will have **those attending in Canberra (100)** and those on Zoom, including many from Africa, Indo Pacific, Western Australia and elsewhere (150?). Members and invited guests of AAUN will have priority. **Others may be asked to attend via Zoom.**
- (v) At the end of the Forum at **1630-1730h** we will have a **reception** to allow further meeting and discussion. The evening will be free for informal dinners and round tables.
- (vi) The AAUN “New Horizons” Workshop (PRDF 2019-21) is between 0900-1230 **Friday 28 Oct.** Program leaders may use remaining PRDF funds to cover travel and accommodation in Canberra.
- (vii) **Subject to the availability of funds**, we will call for competitive proposals for 1-2 Partnership and Development Fund (PRDF) projects in **each of the 5 Security areas listed in the Forum.**
- (viii) **This meeting includes the development of proposals for future funding – in knowledge partnerships with Australian and international universities, governments, business, agencies, and NGO’s.**

DEADLINES AND CONTACTS – We thank all speakers, chairs and participants for their engagement.

Accommodation – Rooms will be reserved at a discount price at HOTEL Q-T, I London Circuit, 0.7 Km walk – 10-15min. **Please see the website www.aaun.edu.au for suggested hotels within 20min walk of ANU.**

Registration attendance and Zoom - **opens 1 August www.aaun.edu.au** (Grace Liu – aaun@unsw.edu.au).

Note: AAUN Members and invited guests will have priority for in-person registration. Places are limited.

FORUM SPEAKERS AND CHAIRS – Guidelines.

SPEAKERS – please keep your presentation to 8 minutes. Focus on current status and priority next steps.

CHAIRS – please make sure time is observed and discussions allow broad engagement. When the 4 presentations in your session are complete, ask for comment from listed discussants (1-2 min each) and then open to Q/A – short interventions! At end of the afternoon, you will present the session actions (2 mins). Please feel free to chair the alternate speakers. Lengthy introductions are not needed as bios are pre-circulated.

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS PROGRAM

ACIAR – Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research – AAUN Knowledge Partner.

DFAT – Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – AAUN Knowledge Partner.

HOMS – Heads of Mission – High Commissioners, Ambassadors.

NRF SA – National Research Foundation of South Africa.

PRDF - AAUN Partnership and Research Development Fund.

AAUN Forum and AGM: Draft Program: October 27-28, 2022

UNIVERSITIES AND GOVERNMENTS: FIVE SECURITIES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 2022 - 2030 October 27-28, Moot Court Building 6a, Law School, Fellows Road, ANU	
Time	NOTES: Final changes will be posted – please follow the website www.aaun.edu.au Please see the selected reference papers for background data and strategic considerations. Note: speakers are physically present (preferred), unless shown as attending by Zoom (Z)
0800	Travel to ANU from QT hotel, I London Circuit – walking distance (0.7 km – 10-15 mins)
0830	Registration & arrival coffee/tea
0900	Session 1 – Teamwork Time: Universities and Governments in Development to 2030
0900-0915	Acknowledgement of Country - Ngunnawal-Ngambri Land Objectives (3 min each) – AAUN engagement in Australia, Africa, and Indo-Pacific Prof Sally Wheeler (Host) , DVC International Strategy, Australian National University Prof Tawana Kupe , Vice Chancellor University of Pretoria, Co-Chair AAUN Africa Prof John Hearn, (MC) , University of New South Wales - Sydney, Exec Co-Chair AAUN
0915-1015	Speakers (8 min each): <i>Australia, Africa, Indo-Pacific priorities 2022-2030</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hon Tim Watts, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs – Opening (Video) 3min 2. Alison Chartres, Head DFAT Africa Branch - High Com. Kenya 2017-20 3. HE Ms Dorcas Makgato, High Commissioner, Botswana 4. HE Mrs Marie Claire Jeanne Monty, High Commissioner, Mauritius 5. HE Marthinus van Schalkwyk, High Commissioner, South Africa <p>Discussion: (25 Min) Priority actions for impact in international development. Discussants: High Commissioners/Ambassadors: HE John Tipis, Kenya; HE Dr Elias Munshya, Zambia; HE Luke Daunivalu, Fiji; Ghaleeb Jeppie, Minister Counsellor DSI, South Africa; Australian Government, Diplomats and Agency representatives.</p>
1015-1045	Coffee break
1045-1145	Session 2: University Challenges: Climate, Energy, Pandemics, Democracy, Development Chair: (3 mins) Mr Aditya Malkani, Association of Commonwealth Universities, Mumbai Co-Chair: Dr Annette McLaren, Senior Policy Adviser, Western Sydney University
	Speakers (8 min each): <i>Towards university engagement with global challenges.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Tawana Kupe, VC and Principal, University of Pretoria 2. Prof Umar Kakumba, DVC and Vice-President, Makerere University, Uganda 3. Prof Pal Ahluwalia, VC and President, University of the South Pacific 4. Prof Brian Schmidt, VC and President. Australian National University <p>Discussion (25 mins) Evidence based policy impact – Challenges and Opportunities Discussants: Prof Liesl Zühlke, VP – MRC-South Africa (Z); Prof Stewart Gill, Assoc. of Commonwealth Unis and U-Melbourne; Prof Angela Dawson, Associate Dean, Faculty of Health, UTS; Prof Tupeni Babo, U of Fiji (Z); A/Prof Desiree Tangman, U Mauritius (Z)</p>

1145-1245	<p>Session 3: Higher Education, Employment, University and Economic Development. Chair: (3 mins) Prof Prem Ramburuth, UNSW - Sydney Co-Chair: Prof Thandi Mgwabi, DVC Research, Innovation, International, Nelson Mandela U.</p>
	<p>Speakers (8 min each): Towards research and education in the knowledge economy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Sally Wheeler OBE, DVC International and Corporate, ANU 2. Scott Morriss, AUSTRADE Commissioner for Africa (Z) 3. Prof John Hearn, UNSW Institute for Global Development, Co-Chair AAUN 4. Dr David Mickler, Dean Global, Africa, Curtin University <p>Launch: AAUN-ELAAD Emerging Leaders in Australia Africa Diplomacy</p> <p>Discussion (25 min) – Towards University strategy and the development of talent Discussants (All). Dr Janet Dzator, Director CARE-P, University of Newcastle; A/Prof Grace Flanagan (Liu), General Manager AAUN.</p>
1245-1400	<p>Working Lunch – AAUN Ltd – Board Meeting (Board Members and Invited Observers). <i>(i) Open session with reports to the Board (1300-1330h):</i> AAUN - New Australia Africa Centres (updates) – Newcastle, UWA, UQ, Curtin. <i>(ii) Closed business session for AAUN Ltd Board Members (1330-1400)</i> Strategic Action Plan, priorities, new partnerships, resources and finance.</p>
1400-1500	<p>Session 4. Environment, Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Chair: (3 min) Dr Aldo Stroebe, CEO National Research Foundation, South Africa Co-Chair: Prof Kadambot Siddique, Director Institute of Agriculture UWA</p>
	<p>Speakers: (8 min each): The UN Global Food Systems Framework – the way forward</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Lindiwe Sibanda, Director, ARUA CoE in Sustainable Food Systems UP 2. Dr Julianne Biddle, Director, Multilateral Engagement, ACIAR 3. Prof Hettie Schonfeldt, Director, ARUA Centre in Food Security UP 4. Dr Colin Chartres, CEO Crawford Fund <p>Discussion: (25 mins) Aligning with international partnerships and funding opportunities. Discussants: Prof Rajeev Varshney, Future Food Inst Murdoch (Z); Prof Adrian Hearn, Anthropologist, University of Melbourne.</p>
1500-1600	<p>Session 5: Security: migration, terrorism, corruption, defense Chair: (3 min) TBC Dr David Mickler, Dean Global, Africa, Curtin U Co-Chair: TBC</p>
	<p>Speakers: (8 min): Knowledge diplomacy. Managing multidimensional risks to avoid conflict.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A/Prof Kathryn Sturman, Sustainable Minerals Institute, University of Queensland 2. Prof Chris Isike, Political Science and International Relations, University of Pretoria 3. Dr Katja Theodorakis, Head of Counterterrorism Program, ASPI 4. Vice Admiral Paul Maddison, Director, UNSW Defence Research Institute, Canberra <p>Discussion (25 min) Security and defense: university research priorities and partnerships Discussants (All); Dr Muhammad Dan Suleiman, UWA</p>
1600-1630	<p>Closing Session – Conclusions and Recommendations for Action Chairs: Profs Tawana Kupe and John Hearn, Chair summaries – Sessions 1-5</p>
1630-1730	<p>Forum Reception for Participants</p>

1740	(Travel to hotels – taxi or walking)
1800-2100	Informal Meetings and Dinners

FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER, MOOT COURT, LAW SCHOOL, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

DAY 2. (0900-1230h). AAUN RESEARCH FRONTIERS. Co-Chairs Profs Prem Ramburuth and John Hearn.

A workshop on AAUN Research frontiers is in final preparation (AAUN - Partnership and Research Development Fund programs). The workshop focuses on the development of proposals for future engagement in Africa, Australia, and the Indo Pacific Region (university partners, business, government, international agencies, related communities).

Program leaders (PRDF awardees) are encouraged to attend in person; and may use any residual funds from their awards to cover travel and accommodation.

Registrations currently include Prem Ramburuth, David Mickler, Janet Dzator, Hettie Schonfeldt, Adrian Hearn, Angela Dawson, John Hearn. Others attending the Forum are welcome to participate.

The draft agenda is: 0930 – PRDF Reports (5mins) and futures; 1030 Tea/Coffee; 1100 – Forum outcomes, research priorities and proposals; 1130 Resource and funding strategy; 1200 Conclusions and recommendations. 1230 Finish.

MEETINGS with Senators, MPs, and officials. AAUN members are welcome to set up such meetings for themselves, or to propose individuals for invitation to the AAUN Program at ANU. However, please avoid setting up separate, competing meetings during the core AAUN program on 27-28 October. We suggest meetings on Wednesday 26 October.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Professor Sally Wheeler OBE, DVC-ANU International Strategy and Corporate, as host.

Wendy Kember, Philip Tweedie for overall logistics and venue support

ANU Student Ambassadors and volunteers, assisting the Forum

KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS AND SPONSORS. We acknowledge a **special thanks** the National Research Foundation of South Africa for their supporting the participation of 8 South African leaders and their strong partnerships with AAUN.

MEDIA (TBC). A Forum report will be circulated to partners, media, agencies and posted on the AAUN websites.

CATERING. Morning tea/coffee/juice; light lunch; Reception 1630-1730h

CAFÉ. Please note the Gods Café and bar is in ANU Hedley Bull building 130, 2 minutes’ walk from the Moot Court.

REFERENCE PAPERS: See www.aaun.edu.au

1. AAUN Strategic Action Plan 2022-25
2. AAUN Assessment Report 2013-2020 summary – full report available on request.
3. AAUN Submission to DFAT in the review of International Development (suspended by previous government)
4. OECD Summary of AID/FDI to Africa.
5. US Indo Pacific Strategy – Biden vs Trump.
6. The University has a role to play in defending democracy.
7. Africa China – in it for the long haul.

Thank you for your interest and engagement. Please contact us...

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